

Application No.: 10/694,690  
Amendment dated: August 22, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2005  
Attorney Docket No.: 21295.68 (H5745US)

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

a.) Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A comparison optical system comprising:  
several image-acquiring optical subsystems, each image-acquiring system associated with its respective motorized XYZ stage;  
a bridge ~~which connects~~ coupling the several image-acquiring optical subsystems mechanically and optically to one another;  
~~an XYZ stage, movable in motorized fashion, is provided for each image acquiring optical subsystem; and~~  
a control unit for synchronously moving the all motorized XYZ stages in motorized fashion, synchronously in all three spatial directions.
2. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of the image-acquiring optical subsystems is a macroscope.
3. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of the image-acquiring optical subsystems is a microscope.
4. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 1 wherein two image-acquiring optical subsystems are mechanically and optically coupled with the bridge.
5. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least for the displacement of the XYZ stages in the X direction, Y direction, and Z direction, a motor is provided which receives the signals of the control unit and converts them into a corresponding rotation.

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6. (Currently Amended) A comparison optical system comprising:  
two macroscopes, each of the two macroscopes being associated with its respective motorized XYZ stage, comprising a first XYZ stage and a second XYZ stage;  
a bridge which connects the two macroscopes mechanically and optically to one another, and  
~~an XYZ stage, movable in motorized fashion, is provided for each macroscope,~~  
and  
a control unit for synchronously moving all the motorized XYZ stages in motorized fashion ~~synchronously~~ in all three spatial directions.
7. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 6, wherein the control unit is a control and adjustment apparatus that is associated with the macroscopes.
8. (Currently Amended) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 6 ~~5~~, wherein the control unit is a control and adjustment apparatus that is associated with the macroscopes; and a first remote control device is respectively connected to the first macroscope; and a second remote control device is connected to the second macroscope.
9. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 8, wherein the control and adjustment apparatus possesses an X actuation element for displacement of the first XYZ stage and an X actuation element for displacement of the second XYZ stage, a Y actuation element for displacement of the first XYZ state and a Y actuation element for displacement of the second XYZ stage, and a Z fine displacement control for the first XYZ stage and a Z fine displacement control for the second XYZ stage.

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10. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 9, wherein the control and adjustment apparatus encompasses an on/off switch for a synchronous displacement of the two XYZ stages which acts in such a way that when the on/off switch for synchronous displacement is switched on, both XYZ stages are movable synchronously regardless of the actuation of the X actuation element or X actuation element, the Y actuation element or Y actuation element, the Z fine displacement control or the Z fine displacement control.

11. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 9, wherein the first remote control device and the second remote control device encompass a plurality of actuation elements; and the actuation elements of the first remote control device and of the second remote control device are also synchronizable in pairs.

12. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 6, wherein the comparison optical system has associated with it a PC that, via an RS232 cable or a USB cable, supplies control signals to the comparison optical system and receives image data or settings data from the comparison optical system.

13. (Currently Amended) A comparison optical system comprising:  
two microscopes, each of the two macroscopes being associated with its respective motorized XYZ stage, comprising a first XYZ stage and a second XYZ stage;  
a bridge which connects the two microscopes mechanically and optically to one another, ~~and~~  
~~an XYZ stage, movable in motorized fashion, is provided for each macroscope,~~  
and

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a control unit for synchronously moving all the motorized XYZ stages in motorized fashion ~~synchronously~~ in all three spatial directions.

14. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the control unit is a first remote control device that is associated with the first microscope; and a second remote control device is associated with the second microscope.

15. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the control unit is a control and adjustment apparatus which possesses an X actuation element for displacement of the first XYZ stage and an X actuation element for displacement of the second XYZ stage, a Y actuation element for displacement of the first XYZ state and a Y actuation element for displacement of the second XYZ stage, and a Z fine displacement control for the first XYZ stage and a Z fine displacement control for the second XYZ stage.

16. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 15, wherein the control and adjustment apparatus encompasses an on/off switch for a synchronous displacement of the two XYZ stages which acts in such a way that when the on/off switch for synchronous displacement is switched on, both XYZ stages are movable synchronously regardless of the actuation of the X actuation element or X actuation element, the Y actuation element or Y actuation element, the Z fine displacement control or the Z fine displacement control.

17. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 14, wherein the first remote control device and the second remote control device encompass a plurality of actuation elements; and the actuation elements of the first remote

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control device and of the second remote control device are also synchronizable in pairs.

18. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 13, wherein at least for the displacement of the XYZ stages in the X direction, Y direction, and Z direction, a motor is provided which receives the signals of the control unit and converts them into a corresponding rotation.

19. (Original) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the comparison optical system has associated with it a PC that, via an RS232 cable or a USB cable, supplies control signals to the comparison optical system and receives image data or settings data from the comparison optical system.

20. (Currently Amended) The comparison optical system as defined in Claim 13, wherein the synchronization of the XYZ stages can be switched on and off by way of a computer ~~the PC~~ (20).